

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GEJDENSON TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. YOUNG OF ALASKA

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GEJDENSON to the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Page 2, line 21, add the following after the period: "In no event may oil be exported under this paragraph before the end of the period within which the President must make his national interest determination under this paragraph."

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Chairman, with the new inclination of the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG] toward accepting amendments, I would hope he would read and accept this one. In the bill as it is drafted, we would have the President making a determination as to the impact of the export of this oil after the fact.

It says first we start shipping this oil and signing contracts with people in the Pacific rim. Then the President is going to take a look at it and find out if there is a problem. If there is a problem, we will already have contracts for sending this oil out there.

A number of gentlemen on the floor have indicated the administration is with them. So they are not facing a hostile administration. It seems to me unless again this is some window dressing in their language and they are not concerned with either the environment or our national security, that at minimum they would be ready to accept this amendment which simply says that, yes, as they wrote it, the President ought to do an assessment on what this change in the law would do to the United States but he ought to do that assessment before contracts are signed with people to ship this oil elsewhere. I would hope that the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG] could support this very limited amendment to try to improve what I think is a bad bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, hope of all hopes, and wishes of all wishes, I do oppose the amendment.

The administration adamantly opposes the amendment. The administration has said they support the committee substitute. We have worked with them. It gives the President the flexibility he wants. Very frankly why should Congress mandate a bureaucratic delay? If the President, and that is what were saying, finds that this is an appropriate thing, why hold his hand for 5 months when he does not want it? That is like asking a girlfriend out on a date when she does not want to hold your hand. You are not going to get anywhere.

Let's face up to it. I suggest respectfully the amendment is very frankly not supported by anyone I know other than the gentleman from Connecticut. I urge the defeat of the amendment.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I do want to commend the gentleman from Connecticut on the effort that he is making with this amendment because it sounds extremely reasonable, that until the President makes his determination, we should not export any of the oil. The problem of course is, perhaps the gentleman from Connecticut has not read the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from Alaska, the chairman. The gentleman from Alaska and this gentleman from California indicated that the administration supports the substitute as written. The substitute as written says that the finding that the President shall make is a negative finding; not a positive one that they should export oil but, in fact, a negative one that they should not.

The gentleman from Connecticut is now saying, notwithstanding the fact that the administration supports the legislation and that the Presidential determination is a negative one, no oil should be exported until the President makes his determination, which is, under the substitute, a finding that they should not export any oil.

I think when we come full circle, all this is, is, an attempt once again to offer an amendment for purposes that the gentleman from Connecticut well knows are not in the best interests of moving this bill forward and therefore not in the best interests of labor, energy production, or consumers in this country. I would ask that Members oppose the amendment of the gentleman from Connecticut.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. GEJDENSON] to the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG].

The amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute was rejected.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky) having assumed the chair, Mr. LINDER, Chairman pro tempore of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 70) to permit exports of certain domestically produced crude oil, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 5 p.m.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LINDER) at 5 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

EXPORTS OF ALASKAN NORTH SLOPE OIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 197 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 70.

□ 1704

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 70) to permit exports of certain domestically produce crude oil, and for other purposes, with Mr. LINDER (Chairman pro tempore) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG] was pending.

SEQUENTIAL VOTES POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Pursuant to the rule, proceedings will now resume on those amendments to the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG] on which further proceedings were postponed in the following order: the amendment offered by the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. GEJDENSON], and the amendment offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER].

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series, including the underlying amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG] if ordered without intervening business or debate.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GEJDENSON

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. GEJDENSON] on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The Clerk designated the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 117, noes 278, answered "present" 1, not voting 38, as follows: